

**Weather Forecast**  
Rain, with moderate temperature to-  
night. Tomorrow clear, cold, windy.  
Temperatures today—Highest, 43, at  
5 a.m.; lowest, 29, at 3 a.m.; 38, at 1 p.m.  
Yesterday—Highest, 59, at 5:30 p.m.;  
lowest, 29, at 7:10 a.m.

Closing N. Y. Markets—Sales, Page A-11.

92d YEAR. No. 36,466.

WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 1944—TWENTY-TWO PAGES.

THREE CENTS.

**Guide for Readers**

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An Associated Press Newspaper

Washington and Suburbs

STREET CLOSURES

# U. S. Heavy Bombers Raid Berlin For First Time, Germans Report; Big Attack Declared Beaten Off

## 'Whole Air Force Up There Today,' Flyer Declares

**BULLETIN.**  
LONDON (AP)—United States Army headquarters announced today that American heavy bombers attacked targets in Eastern Germany and that one formation "reported attacking a target in the Berlin district."

In conflicting statements, a German propaganda agency, the International Information Bureau, broadcast that bombs showered on the city, while the official DNB news agency said not a single explosive fell on Berlin itself.

LONDON, Mar. 4.—American heavy bombers bombed Berlin for the first time today, the Berlin radio said, as United States headquarters announced without naming the target that Flying Fortresses and Liberators had struck at objectives in the Reich.

The German broadcast said the raid on the German capital was a repetition of an attack which failed yesterday. United States headquarters announced yesterday, however, only that American fighter planes had made an offensive sweep over Berlin and made no reference to bombers.

"This time the attack was flown from a westerly direction," the broadcast said. "Only a small part of the American formation—which was strongly escorted by fighters—reached Berlin," it continued.

**Report Strong Defense.**  
"They encountered very strong defense and had to jettison their bombs or were compelled to release them without taking aim as they were hard pressed by German fighters. Several U. S. A. planes brought down, crashed in the immediate vicinity of the capital."

"At the time when the bombers approached Reich territory, the sky was clouded. On their return, the bombers once more were engaged in fierce air combats. Planes were observed to crash all over areas defended by anti-aircraft guns."

Berlin has been a goal for American flyers ever since they began operations in the European theater, but if the German reports were true this was the first time they had an opportunity to take part in the destruction of the capital begun—and almost finished—by the RAF.

**Bitterly Cold Skies.**  
The daylight operation against the German capital had waited development of P-38 and P-51 long-range fighters necessary to protect the bombers along the heavily defended course to the target, at least 575 miles from British bases.

The bombers plowed through bitterly cold skies at temperatures as low as 45 degrees below zero in their daylight blow at the Reich.

"It was plenty cold," reported L. R. Morgan of Worland, Wyo., a (See RAIDS, Page A-2.)

**Turks Reported Aiding Bulgarian Peace Bid**  
Said to Have Promised Contact With Allies

**By the Associated Press.**  
LONDON, Mar. 4.—An Istanbul dispatch to the London Daily Mail said yesterday that Turkey had promised an unofficial Bulgarian envoy to submit to the Allies any Bulgarian request for peace.

The envoy was identified as Prof. Boris, a close friend of the late King Boris, and he was said to have been in Turkey a month "trying to determine the best means of his country withdrawing from the war."

He was reported now on the way to Sofia.

A Cairo dispatch noted that Bulgaria's headlines are sure to be increased by the peace pact ending civil war between the Greek Andartes bands to concentrate on the invader. Many Bulgarian troops are known to be stationed in Greece.

A Moscow broadcast reported by the Office of War Information said last night that the capture of Hungarian infantrymen, tank crews and airmen by the Russians belied Budapest assertions that Hungarian troops were not engaged in front-line fighting, but were in "security services."

Hungarians "are playing a dangerous game," said the broadcast, and "when the hour of reckoning comes they will get what they deserve."

**Design for Germany**  
Emil Ludwig, famous German-born historian, gives his views on how Germany should be governed during the occupation which is to come. He explains proposed "zones of occupation" and offers 14 points of advice to American officers.

Read his thought-provoking article in the Editorial Feature Section tomorrow in

## Allies Smash 3 Small Attacks On Beachhead

### German Stabs Weak After Failure of All-Out Offensive

**By the Associated Press.**  
ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, NAPLES, Mar. 4.—Three small German attacks against the beachhead below Rome were smashed yesterday and Thursday as the Nazis continued to stab weakly at the Allied lines after the failure of their latest all-out offensive, headquarters announced today.

A dusk assault against American troops along the Cisterna-Montello road Thursday was beaten back by artillery fire and three tanks were destroyed. Two strong enemy patrols probing British positions around Carroceto were dispersed and infiltration attempts in the Moletta River area also failed.

Unfavorable weather curtailed ground operations on the front, a communiqué said, with action in the Cassino area limited to "normal patrolling and exchanges of fire." The 8th Army repulsed a small Nazi thrust in the mountains.

**Five Nazi Divisions Used.**  
Allied officers estimate at least five Nazi divisions were used in the recent costly offensive against the beachhead. Three German divisions had previously been identified in the assault, but the Allied command later learned the crack Hermann Goering Panzer Division and the 75th Infantry also were employed. The latter outfit suffered heavy casualties in both of the last two offensives.

Since the British and Americans landed below Rome January 22 they have taken more than 3,500 prisoners, a spokesman said.

The Allied air forces yesterday struck slashing blows at German communications in Northern Italy and in Rome, blasting railways, destroying a number of locomotives and cannibalizing shipping and dock areas. Eleven German planes were destroyed against a loss of 10 Allied craft.

One company of German infantry attacked Indian troops near the mountain village of Fallasocco, southwest of Torricella on the 8th Army front, but were driven off with casualties, leaving four prisoners in Allied hands.

**Patrols Maintain Close Contact.**  
On that front Allied patrols maintained close contact with the Germans, a Canadian patrol capturing a machine gun in the Crechio area. Another Canadian patrol ambushed a German party in a night action near Orsogna, inflicting casualties. Polish patrols also were active.

Spitfires again blasted the Yugoslav coast, smashing two locomotives and machine-gunning trains, and Wellington night bombers followed up the blows with a smash last night at Zara, Italian port on the Dalmatian coast, with two-ton bombs.

Zara is one of the major intake centers of Rome, ranging from the German reinforcements and supplies in the battle against Yugoslav Partisans.

Bomb-strike photos showed that about 2,000 pieces of rolling stock were in the heavily-hilt Littorio yards, about 5 miles north of the center of Rome, ranging from the German reinforcements and supplies in the battle against Yugoslav Partisans.

**Religious Monuments Avoided.**  
Headquarters declared that care was used to avoid religious and cultural monuments in the Eternal City "as in previous attacks."

Tracks were torn up in the Tiburina yards and bombs set fire to storage depots and hit nearby warehouses, damaging two industrial plants nearby.

About 30 German fighters challenged the Flying Fortresses over the Rome area. The bomber gunners shot down five and escorted Thunderbolts destroyed six.

Marauders following the heavy bombers over Rome attacked the Ostiense rail yards in the southern part of the city through which German supplies to the 5th Army front pass. Liberators went north to Rome to bomb airfields, but a heavy overcast prevented accurate observation of the results.

**Entertainment Places To Be Closed in Tokyo**  
By the Associated Press.

NEW YORK, Mar. 4.—A total of 8,900 "high-class entertainment" places in Tokyo, ranging from the Imperial Hotel's restaurant to long string of geisha houses, will be closed tomorrow under a measure adopted by Premier Tojo's government "to fit the mode of public living to wartime requirements."

The Japanese Domei agency said today.

In a wireless dispatch beamed to North American and recorded by the United States Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service, Domei said 35,000 employees would be released for "mobilization in munitions factories and other wartime industrial plants."

**John L. Pickering Dies**  
SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Mar. 4.—John L. Pickering, 84, collector of internal revenue under the Wilson administration, died last night.

## Vichyite Testifies Giraud Called Him to Africa

### Ex-Minister Asserts He Helped Prevent Nazi Occupation

**By the Associated Press.**  
ALGIERS, Mar. 4.—Former Vichy Minister of the Interior Pierre Pucheu, opening his defense against charges of treason, told a special French military tribunal today that he came to North Africa at Gen. Henri Giraud's own invitation.

He called on the French commander in chief, who had been summoned as a defense witness, to corroborate him. Gen. Giraud, who received confirmation yesterday of his daughter's death in Germany, was not present.

Pucheu accused the French Committee of National Liberation of putting Vichy on trial, and then asserted that Vichy prevented Giraud from coming to North Africa and preserved it for the Allies.

The former minister said he reached an understanding with Gen. Giraud in France, in October, 1942, whereby Pucheu would come to North Africa, not a political post, but to join a fighting unit.

Gen. Giraud is expected to appear before the court later to substantiate or deny this.

He claimed that as interior minister he "slowed down" the Vichy police and prevented the arrest of resistance leaders, including Henri Frenay. Frenay, a member of the French National Committee, also will be called as a defense witness.

**Narva Reported Fired By Germans Before Advancing Reds**  
By the Associated Press.

LONDON, Mar. 4.—Russian troops have smashed their way into the outskirts of the Baltic gateway city of Pskov from the east, Moscow announced today, and unofficial Soviet reports said the Germans have put the torch to the ancient Estonian fortress town of Narva before the approaching Red forces.

Even before yesterday's advance the Russians had plunged to within six miles of Pskov from the north. Seventeen miles southeast of Pskov Soviet spearheads fought their way to within six miles of the last escape route open to the Germans, the Moscow bulletin said, and were closing in on the town of Ostrov.

**Enlarge Foothold.**  
On the Narva River bridgehead south of Narva, Gen. Leonid A. Govorov's troops pressed westward and succeeded in enlarging their foothold on the west bank, killing more than 2,300 Germans in the last 48 hours, Moscow reported. Gen. Govorov's troops had previously reached Auvere, nine miles west of Narva, cutting the railway leading to Reval, practically isolating the Narva garrison.

Berlin admitted Russian gains in the Narva area, described the fighting as "exceptionally embittered" and said "the enemy continues to attack without interruption."

Indicative of the fight the Germans were planning at Pskov, key to what is left of their communications and supply system in Northern Russia, Moscow said "the enemy was formed all populated places situated on the approaches to Pskov into powerful centers of defense and is putting up strong artillery resistance."

**17 Towns Captured.**  
Nevertheless, according to the Russian communiqué, the Red Army troops captured 17 towns and four railway stations in yesterday's fighting, bringing their lines to a point eight miles southeast of Pskov at Pokhvalshchina. Another town engulfed in the Soviet drive was Sysaeva, 17 miles southeast of Pskov and six miles from the Pskov-War saw train line.

The lunge into the eastern outskirts of Pskov came when Soviet units smashed forward for six miles to capture the suburban town of Moloye Fomkino, five miles away. The Germans left more than 800 dead on the battlefield, the Moscow bulletin said.

Three of the railway stations swept into the Russian bag were on the Pskov-Polotk railway.

**British Average Wages Up 76% During War**  
By the Associated Press.

LONDON, Mar. 4.—The Ministry of Labor disclosed last night that the average wages of all skilled and unskilled workers in Britain increased 76 per cent from October, 1938, the last normal prewar figure.

The cost of living rose 30 per cent in the same period, and, with rationing and shortages, most workers are making more than they can spend, the ministry said.

The average weekly earnings of more than 6,000,000 manual workers in July, 1943, was \$18.75. The average work week for men rose from 47.7 hours in 1938 to 52.9 in 1943 and for women from 43.5 to 45.9 during the same period.

## Americans Fight Way Inland in Admiralties

### Japs Resisting Bitterly From Ridge Positions

**By the Associated Press.**  
ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, SOUTHWEST PACIFIC, Mar. 4.—Reinforced American invaders of Los Negros in the Admiralty Islands are moving inland against Japanese bitterly resisting from ridge positions. The Yanks are now a mile and three-quarters inland.

The several thousand Japanese also are being reinforced from Manus Island on the west in the battle for a dominant position in the Bismarck Sea.

(The Japanese Domei agency said today in an English-language wireless transmission to the United States that "heavy fighting" was in progress in the Admiralty Islands, especially on Los Negros, despite "inclement weather.")

(The dispatch, for American consumption, declared "fighting is continuing in the torrential rain and deep mire," and added: "With the arrival of fresh reinforcements from a nearby island, Japanese garrison forces are reported preparing to launch a general offensive.")

**Japs Fought From Air.**  
The Japanese are undergoing a terrific pounding from Mitchell bombers and Boston attack planes and the only appearance of their planes since the invasion opened Tuesday resulted in a costly defeat.

This was the situation depicted today in a headquarters communiqué.

Destroyers put dismounted cavalrymen of the 6th Army ashore at Los Negros on the northeastern side of the Admiralties Tuesday to test enemy strength there. The Japanese, obviously expecting any attack on the Admiralties to come from the south, were so outnumbered that the landing force quickly captured Momote airfield.

After Gen. Douglas MacArthur personally inspected the scene and counterattacks by numerically superior forces of Japanese were thrown back, a full-fledged invasion was decided on and reinforcements were landed Thursday. Headquarters said today that more enemy counterblows were blunted that day and yesterday the invaders moved slowly ahead from the airfield.

**8 Jap Planes Shot Down.**  
Deprived of air support in the Admiralties by the bombing out of Lorengau airfield on Manus and the capture of Momote on Los Negros, the Japanese finally got a formation of 15 planes over the invasion scene, presumably from New Guinea base, more than 200 miles to the west. A group of Thunderbolts only half that size shot down eight of the formation and the remainder are believed to have bailed out.

The invaders hastily constructed pillboxes and dug foxholes to strengthen their positions along the 1-mile north-and-south beachhead while engineers repaired the captured airfield, slowed up in their work by rain.

The bad weather prevented planes from flying to Rabaul from the Solomons, as they had for 15 straight days, but the Solomons air force was busy at home. Around the airbase perimeter at Empress Augusta Bay on Bougainville Island, Dauntlesses and Avengers dropped 110 tons of explosives on the Japanese and farther to the south on the same island Army bombers and fighters dumped 84 tons on the enemy's Kahili airfield.

**Services Held in White House As Roosevelt Begins 12th Year**  
By the Associated Press.

Beginning his 12th year in office, President Roosevelt attended religious services today in keeping with the annual custom he established on the day of his inauguration. He heard his friend and teacher, the Rev. Dr. Endicott Peabody, headmaster emeritus of Groton School, pray for divine guidance for "Thy servant, Franklin, the President of the United States, and all others in authority."

The ceremony, in accordance with the Episcopal ritual, was held in the east room of the White House. Members of the Roosevelt family, the Supreme Court, cabinet and Congress and heads of the various agencies were present with their wives.

Dr. Peabody prayed for social justice; for those in the service and for the enemies now engaging this Nation on the battlefield. He bespoke strength and health for the leaders of the country and finally for establishment of a just peace among the nations of the world.

The service was opened by the singing of the processional hymn—"On God, Our Help in Ages Past"—



Maybe It's a Sitdown Strike

## Subcommittee Votes to Cite Daniels for Contempt of Senate

### Full Committee Due to Act Next Week On Refusal to Testify in REA Probe

A Senate Agriculture Subcommittee voted unanimously today to recommend contempt proceedings against Jonathan Daniels, one of President Roosevelt's administrative assistants, for refusal to answer questions in the investigation of the Rural Electrification Administration.

Chairman Smith said the recommendation would be submitted to the full committee which will probably decide next week whether to take the issue to the Senate. Senator Smith also is chairman of the full committee.

The subcommittee recommendation, Senator Smith said, will be that Mr. Daniels "be brought before the Senate to show cause why he should not be adjudged in contempt."

Senator Smith said the intention of the subcommittee, subject to approval by the full committee, is that the Senate conduct proceedings itself rather than refer it to a Federal court.

Attorneys said the contempt action, if ordered, would be the first ever undertaken by Congress against an official of the executive branch of the Government. It would open the way for a decision on whether the Senate's power to punish private individuals for refusal to testify also applies to these officials.

Mr. Daniels had refused to supply the subcommittee with information it requested, maintaining that it is confidential between the President and himself, and that it would not serve the public interest.

Subcommittee members took the view that his refusal amounted to a challenge of the authority of Congress to compel testimony of public officials.

(See DANIELS, Page A-2.)

## Finland Is Reported Ready to Present Answer to Russia

**By the Associated Press.**  
STOCKHOLM, Mar. 4.—The Stockholm Tidningen, quoting private sources, said today that Juho K. Paasikivi, who represented Finland in arranging the 1940 peace, would arrive in Stockholm soon with Finland's answer to Russia's peace terms.

The newspaper said the reply would be handed to Mme. Alexandra Kollantai, Soviet Ambassador to Sweden, and would ask for clarification of certain of the terms. The reply was said to express a desire to continue the negotiations.

Earlier the Stockholm Dagbladet Nyheter said the Finnish Parliament had rejected the Soviet demands for intervention of German troops now in Finland and restoration of the 1940 boundaries.

The newspaper asserted the Finnish government was still drafting its reply to Russia, but added that it would be handed in such a way as not to break the contact with Russia.

Allehand's Helsinki correspondent said "it is clear the Finnish government has received new information regarding the armistice conditions and has found a way of resuming negotiations."

Finland's Social Democratic press was said to be emphasizing now that a way out must be found and that Finland cannot continue at war with her great neighbor.

It was learned through other sources that the Parliament's vote of confidence in the government in the peace crisis was 105 to 80.

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## Lepke Appeal Denied By Supreme Court; Due to Die Tonight

### Preparations for Execution Proceed; Dewey Not Expected to Intervene

**BULLETIN.**  
The Supreme Court rejected today a last-minute legal maneuver by counsel for Louis (Lepke) Buchalter to save the one-time chief of Murder, Inc., from execution tonight.

By the Associated Press.

Counsel for Louis (Lepke) Buchalter, one-time boss of Murder, Inc., Brooklyn gang organization, made a final effort in the Supreme Court today to save him from execution in Sing Sing Prison's electric chair tonight.

Albert E. Klapper, special attorney for the gangster, filed with the court clerk a petition for a writ of certiorari, which asked a review of the refusal by lower Federal courts this week to interfere in the case.

Mr. Klapper's petition urged the court to consider the question whether Attorney General Biddle had power to "terminate a valid sentence of a District court of the United States prior to expiration thereof, without the intervention of a pardon or a commutation of sentence by the President."

**Sentenced to 14 Years.**  
That was substantially the issue presented before the lower courts, he said.

Lepke was serving a 14-year term in a Federal prison when Mr. Biddle turned him over to New York authorities to be tried for the slaying of Joseph Rosen, Brooklyn storekeeper, eight years ago.

Burton Turkus and Solomon Klein, assistant district attorneys of Kings county, N. Y., appeared before the Supreme Court clerk previous to Mr. Klapper's arrival and filed copies of the opinions handed down in the lower courts.

They called attention to a Supreme Court decision of 1927 which was cited in the lower courts' opinions which stated:

"The penitentiary is not a sanctuary. Life in it does not confer immunity from capital punishment provided by law. The prisoner has no vested constitutional right to serve out his unexpired sentence."

**Turned Down Before.**  
Lepke, whose name was blamed for as many as 80 killings, thus asked the aid of a court which had turned him down cold in another appeal.

By unanimous action last June 1, the high tribunal refused to set aside first degree murder convictions of Lepke, and two of his Murder, Inc. henchmen—Emanuel Weiss and Louis Capone.

The three were saved from execution for the Rosen killing Thursday (See LEPKE, Page A-2.)

## Basket Ball Referee Dies in Blazing Auto

**By the Associated Press.**  
SISTERSVILLE, Va., Mar. 4.—Gerald Gainer, 31, basket ball referee, was burned to death early today and his fellow referee, James Brandon, was critically injured when their car struck a truck and left the road near Natrum.

Mr. Gainer and Mr. Brandon were driving to their homes in Wheeling after refereeing the semifinals game in the sectional scholastic basketball tournament at Sistersville.

Oron Orandoff, a witness, told State police the car driven by Mr. Gainer collided with the rear of an oil truck and veered into a field. The car's gasoline tank exploded.

Mr. Brandon managed to crawl from the blazing car and a passerby extinguished the flames in his clothing.

**Bankrupt's Withdrawal Leaves 12 in Widener**  
By the Associated Press.

MIAMI, Fla., Mar. 4.—Only one horse was scratched, leaving a field of 12 to run today in the \$25,000 Widener Handicap.

Townsend B. Martin's Bankrupt, an outsider, was withdrawn, but the naval ensign still was represented by Bolingbroke.

## OPA, Vinson Ask Cut in D. C. Transit Fares

### Request Early Hearing By PUC and Right To Intervene

The Office of Price Administration and the economic stabilization director today called on the Public Utilities Commission to set an early date for public hearings on reduction of Capital Transit fares and at the same time asked the right to intervene in the proceedings.

After the hearing, the agencies want the PUC to issue a "temporary or immediate order" reducing the rates of the company. The petition was signed by Fred M. Vinson, economic stabilization director, and Chester Bowles, OPA administrator.

The petition for intervention claimed existing fares are "unjust and unreasonable" and said the commission should direct the transit company to issue weekly passes good for transfer to the Washington, Marlboro & Annapolis Motor Lines from Seventeenth street and Pennsylvania avenue S.E. to Suitland, Md.

"A reduction in the rates and fares of the company will aid the Government in its program to keep down the costs of living," the petition charged.

**Inequities Charged.**  
"Thousands of Government employees living in the adjacent Virginia and Maryland communities are compelled to pay double fares to their place of employment in the District," the petition claimed.

"Thousands of Government employees living within the District are compelled to pay inequitable fares to Government buildings located just outside the District."

"For example, employees of Government agencies in Suitland, Md., living within the District are not permitted to obtain a transfer to the W. M. & A. Lines running to Suitland from the terminus of the Capital Transit Co. at Seventeenth and Pennsylvania avenue S.E. if they present their weekly pass, but are required to pay either a 10-cent cash fare or a 25-cent transfer to obtain a transfer to the W. M. & A. Lines to travel to Suitland, and to pay an additional 5 cents with the transfer of the W. M. & A. Lines."

The petition also charged that the savings of the company in 1942 and 1943 were in excess "of a fair and reasonable return upon the present fair value of its property."

**Earnings Cited.**  
Concerning the company earnings last year the petition had this to say:

"During 1943, according to the company's reports to this commission, its revenues were \$27,818,134, compared to \$24,045,968 during 1942; its net income before Federal income and excess profit taxes as accrued (but not necessarily as paid) was \$8,131,846 in excess of a rate of approximately 20 per cent in 1943 and 15 per cent in 1942."

"Since the statute which governs the powers and duties of the commission provides that all charges shall be just and reasonable, and that every unreasonable rate is unlawful and prohibited, the commission should, on the basis of the earnings set forth above, cause this matter to be heard at an early date, and issue a temporary or immediate order which would remove such unreasonable rates as required by the statute."

If no order is issued in regard to the transfer between the local transit company and the W. M. & A. line, the petition suggested as "an alternative" that the PUC "ask the Interstate Commerce Commission for a joint hearing for the purpose of bringing about such adjustment in the fares in other companies."

**British Take Positions North of Buthedaung**  
By the Associated Press.

NEOP DELHI, Mar. 4.—British troops captured Japanese positions north and northeast of Buthedaung in their drive on Akyab, 50 miles to the south, in Burma yesterday and held them against strong counterattacks, today's Southeast Asia communiqué announced.

Strategic and tactical air forces combined in an attack on Fort White in Northern Burma yesterday while tactical fighters and dive-bombers struck enemy positions near the Kaladan, Arakan and Mayu areas.

Very large formations of United States fighter-bombers started fires and caused heavy explosions among troop concentrations, and stores in the Swangha area, the communiqué said.

**Blood Added to Wounds In New Soviet Treatment**  
By the Associated Press.

MOSCOW, Mar. 4.—A new method of treating wounds by adding blood to them has been discovered by 77-year-old Prof. Olga Lepeshinskaya through a study of the role of live substance in the process of healing, Tass News Agency announced yesterday.

Hospital tests of the new method proved its value, Tass said, without giving details of the process.

**4 Swiss Sentenced On Espionage Charges**  
By the Associated Press.

LONDON, Mar. 4.—A Swiss broadcast said today that a major of the Swiss Interlaken Motorized Division had been sentenced to death and four other Swiss had received prison sentences for treason.

All sentenced were members of a spy organization established to secure military information for a foreign power, said the broadcast without naming the country involved.